

First issue for '69 October

GRECC PRESS

M-DAY

The degree of support for the Vietnam War Moratorium at GCC depends upon the attitude and reactions displayed by the student body. Officially, the faculty and administration cannot formally support this effort, for the state legislature is not allowing any state-supported college or university to declare its political views on the matter. However, official sanction is not entirely absent in Massachusetts for both Governor Sargent and Senator Edward Kennedy urge observance of the day. The majority of the faculty here at GCC have expressed sympathy with the cause and, although classes are scheduled, many say that student absences will not be held against them.

There are no scheduled activities here during the day, however, and it is expected that students who cut classes will participate in peaceful discussions either among themselves and the faculty here at GCC, or at the University at Amherst. On Wednesday evening there will be a reading of Antigone in the college auditorium at 8:00. This play, presented by students and faculty from GCC and U.Mass., comments on the conflict between state authority and individual morality, implying that each must operate with respect for the other if the state is to best represent and guide its citizens.

Despite whichever stance each student decides to take, this observance should not be ignored. The nationwide reaction to this protest could be very significant in influencing congress and our representatives. Despite Mr. Nixon's vow that student actions will carry no weight with him, he cannot ignore wide-

A record enrollment of students... or apathy? One begins to wonder why, out of 951 students, only five articles reached your newspaper. That's right - your newspaper and not the editor's or staff's. Dating back to 1962, a tiny voice in a tiny college cried out, "We're a small voice now but someday we're going to roar." It's 1969 now and the newspaper has not grown as has the college. Is this to be another year when the newspaper sparks and dies like so many before? A newspaper is the backbone of the college. But without student participation this newspaper will fail, so it's up to you to support this effort.

.....

spread sentiment. The effect, however, must be one of rational and concerned action which cannot be ascribed to senseless riot or generalized unrest. Presumably, those students attending classes on October 15th will be doing so as a form of assent to the nation's policies concerning Vietnam. Those absent on that day hopefully are expressing their dissatisfaction over the war and are doing something constructive about it. It is hoped that each student will support this effort one way or the other.

.....

A Windfall: Winder's Wavelength

Having been asked to comment on the Moratorium, I'd like to take this opportunity to make a point that is seldom mentioned, and that point revolves around the enormous importance of dissent. Dissent as a healthy and necessary concomitant of democracy has almost disappeared from the American scene. In the mass media it is absent, and therefore, in the consciousness of most Americans it does

(Winder's Wavelength, con't.)

not exist. One single opinion is put forth: that of the Establishment. Our foreign policy and our domestic policy are guided by "experts" who supposedly know the answers, and who supposedly know what's best for us. What a far cry from the Jeffersonian ideal that political action must be derived from an active market-place of ideas.

This conformity of opinion that is daily reinforced by the press and television is precisely why October 15th is a most significant day, for we are coming to see that the one place where a dissident opinion can be aired is on the campuses of this country. And who more correctly should be dealing with the Vietnam question than the college student who is the most likely person to be affected by the war? Ironically, the college student is powerless (most are below voting age, and students do not control the mass media) but in this one instance they will be voicing their concerns.

If our society will continue to remain viable as a democracy, it will be in great measure due to the courage of youth to speak and act against the monolith of conformity. As a faculty member of a college, I wish you much success in what should prove to be the test of your education: your informed dissent must be carried into the community to combat both uniformity of opinion on the war and apathy to its solutions.

Mrs. Winder,
English Dept.

.....

For those students planning a doorbell campaign to solicit support among Greenfield residents and businessmen on Moratorium Day: helmets and a copy of the Bill of Rights may be picked up at the main office.

Keep Our Peaceful Demonstrations Peaceful

What is to be accomplished at this "peaceful demonstration" in Chicago on Wednesday October 15th? Knowing and experiencing Mayor Daley's procedures and tactics in the past, do you really think these hundreds of thousands of students are really going to hold their cool while observing Daley's men in blue lined up, their guns poised, their tear gas masks there by their sides, waiting...PREPARED ...to take action, self defense or otherwise. They obey orders, and I'm sure by now their orders have been given.

Shall we look at it like this and say let us all strive to come together on a national agreement on this Vietnamese war? As I mentioned before, there are many students who feel that they should stand up and be counted on this day, but there are parts of the country and especially Chicago, where these numbers of students will form a mob. This is very likely for their hate of this war is so emphatic, so intense and so justifying.

This can be a worry! Not the idea of a war moratorium in itself but the throngs of students who are participating, who want to speak and be heard and there will be extremists present, I'm sure, wanting to throw in their bid and since not all can be heard, their fight intensifies and Mayor Daley's men will be waiting.

A bit of advice for us all on that day. Many American boys have lost their lives in this "don't know why" war. Let's not lose our cool and let's keep our peaceful demonstrations peaceful for if it ends up as a chaotic mob, we will be defeating our own purpose.

Martha Carey

.....

ANTIGONE

Wednesday night, October 15th. 8:00

A reading by students and faculty
from GCC and U.Mass. Don't miss it.

Having read the articles in this newspaper, I cannot help but conclude that they are misleading, slanted, and biased in regards to the Moratorium day. I, for one, intend neither to support nor sympathize with their "cause". Their views read suspiciously like that same hot-headed idealism displayed by would-be hippies and backroom philosophers bemoaning the depravity of our democracy. In short, they smack of immaturity. The mass demonstrations which are planned can be most easily likened to football rallies and freshmen exuberance. The public solicitation of support will serve not to halt the war, but to further alienate and inflame the people of the country against college radicals. And that is what we will all be labeled if the student body lends its support to this ineffective and possibly harmful display of emotional frenzy. This moratorium has not been condoned by the state legislature and to support it would be fighting our legislative processes. If anything concrete is to be accomplished in regard to national issues, they must be worked out within the system. M-Day is an unwise move: it will antagonize the lawmakers in our country, it is impractical, and it can only result in increasing the discord which already marks relations between the different factions of our society. Therefore I urge a policy of nonparticipation of this observance in order to preserve whatever sanity still remains within us.

.....

CHESS CLUB: Meeting Friday 17th, room 103, 11:00.

FRENCH CLUB: Friday 17th, A meeting in room 207 at 11:00.

TOY SALE: For the benefit of the Student Emergency Loan Fund. Goal: \$500. October 25th, 10:00. Leave donations at Main GCC Building in basement. Deadline is October 22.

Because of the significance of the event and the opportunity it gives us to stress a viewpoint, I have determined to take a hard-line stand in favor of the Vietnam War Moratorium on October 15th. To emphasize a sane and humane solution to the Vietnam war, this day of protest must be unequivocally supported by every citizen who gives a damn about his country and about the ethics of manking in general. Appropriate action must be taken in every possible manner, from mass demonstrations, protests and boycotts of nonparticipating leaders and businesses, to door to door solicitation of support among area citizens. Student backing is a necessity - no conscientious student should attend classes or patronize businesses on that day. Our absence from classes will indicate our concern and our appearance at demonstrations will prove our determination to do something about the boys being slaughtered in order that an administration save face. The blood is on your hands if you insist on ignoring this effort by attending classes.

.....

TUTOR NEEDED: Two years ago the college answered the expressed need of the community and set up a continuing service in conjunction with the Franklin Community Action Committee. The senior and junior high school students who are having difficulty call the FCAC office and a tutor from the college is assigned. We need volunteers to continue this service. You don't have to be an expert - just interested in one to one relationships and have one hour a week to give. Anyone who is willing to do this, please leave your name in room 102, with Mrs. Case.

.....

FROM HERE TO THE 70'S: A film to be shown in the cafeteria at 1:30 on Thursday. This lasts two and one half hours and students may come and go as they please. Students are invited to stay for a discussion afterwards.

Faculty and Administrative Views on the Moratorium

Staff members interviewed various members of the faculty and administration to sound out views on the Moratorium.

Generally, the administration feels that participation in this protest must reflect a conscientious involvement and not an excuse for a personal holiday. Dr. Turner has said that if a student feels it is important to participate in the moratorium, and does so, it is the student's sacrifice and he must take responsibility for any classes he cuts. Faculty members may ask for the day off without pay, but that they do have a responsibility to their contracts which this event does not negate.

Dean Padgug considers the question of the war important to society and one that should not be ignored. However, he feels that the college should not close, for a state-supported institution such as the college has an obligation to remain neutral to political causes.

"I think it should be left up to the individual student", Mr. Prossida states, "and up to the individual faculty member". Faculty members ought to make arrangements for substitutes, he added, so that those students who want to come to class will have a faculty member present.

Mr. Phiel, a member of the English Department, supports this peace effort and will take part in a vigil on the Brattleboro common on Wednesday morning. Dr. Dolhenty of the Psychology Department feels that students should participate and wishes he could do the same. Mr. Sweeney feels that if a student has a strong moral reason for doing so, then he should take part.

Questions were raised by some faculty members concerning student participation in the effort. Mr. Oberacker wonders how many students would actually participate in a demonstration if the college were closed. Of other faculty informally polled, five members were for M-Day and approximately two did not favor it.

Jim Atkins,
Margaret Strange

The Day Programs Committee has presented three programs: the first, folk-singer Barbara Keith; the second, a "coffee hour" with Margaret Stein, an artist and GCC teacher who had an exhibit of her work in the auditorium; third, the student-faculty forum, called to discuss the question "Are Grades on the Way Out?" All programs were well attended and seemed to be received enthusiastically.

A second Student-Faculty Forum is scheduled for October 22nd, the title is tentatively "Student Power at GCC." This forum will be held in the auditorium at 11:00.

Russell Johnson, a representative from the American Friends Service Committee is scheduled to speak on November 19th or on Nov. 26th. He has traveled widely in Asia, visited Hanoi and other troubled areas.

Rick Marsten, a folk singer whose style is somewhat similar to Pete Seeger's, will be here on November 24th at 11:00 in the auditorium.

.....

Several of the articles in this newspaper have been printed unsigned. Although this is against editorial policy, I felt that the importance of the issue warranted printing them. Henceforth all articles must be signed by the respective author or they will not be printed. If anyone does not want their name printed, they may ask to have it withheld.

Due to the confusion in the newspaper, only the names of those people who wrote articles for the paper were included in the list of staff. Due to the limited time available to write this issue, some people who offered help were not called upon. I would like to thank these people for their cooperation and express hope for their continued help in further issues. The newspaper has an office in the South Building. Any interested in the paper can obtain information there anytime.

EDITOR: Stephen Flynn
STAFF: Martha Carey
Jim Atkins
Margaret Strange